

Message Text

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51

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ADP-00 EB-11 AGR-20 OMB-01 IO-13

PC-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01

USIA-15 PRS-01 IGA-02 RSR-01 /188 W

----- 017740

R 061135Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6810

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY FORT LAMY

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS OUAGADOUGOU 1578

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, UV

SUBJ: BELGIAN AIRDROPS

PARIS (WILLIAMS AND RAICHT); ROME (FODAG)

PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING TO COOPERATION MINISTRY IF YOU DEEM
IT APPROPRIATE.

1. BELGIAN GOVERNMENT SHOULD ANTICIPATE REQUEST FROM
VOLTAN GOVERNMENT FOR CONTINUATION OF C-130 AIRDROP
ACTIVITIES FOLLOWING DEPARTURE AUGUST 11 OF CH-07 THAT
ARRIVED HERE JULY 31.

2. VOLTANS HAVE HIGHEST REGARD FOR BELGIAN AIRLIFT
AND AIRDROP ASSISTANCE, WHICH NOW TOTALS SOME FIFTY
AIRCRAFT DAYS SINCE THE FIRST ARRIVAL MAY 30 AND HAS
PRODUCED 375 TONS US SORGHUM AIRLIFTED TO OUAGADOUGOU
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FROM ACCRA PLUS 274 PARACHUTED OR FREE DROPPED BY

SEPARATE OPERATION IN NORTH. SPECIAL COMMENDATION SHOULD GO TO FLIGHT COMMANDER MAJOR VERHOEVEN, WHOSE ENERGY, RESOURCEFULNESS, SKILL, AND ABILITY TO PLAN AND TO COMMAND HAVE IMPRESSED VOLTANS AND EUROPEANS ALIKE.

3. IN ADDITION TO FIFTY TONS PARACHUTED ON ISOLATED POPULATIONS IN NORTH NO LONGER REACHABLE BY ROAD, CH-07 HAS FREE DROPPED FORTY. US EMBASSY/PEACE CORPS/VOLTAN RED CROSS ASSEMBLY LINE PREPARING US SORGHUM OR EEC CORN FOR FREE DROP IS NOW DEVELOPED TO POINT WHERE BELGIAN PARATROOP COMMANDER CAPTAIN FURNIMONT IS READY TO GO OVER TO FREE DROP VIRTUALLY EXCLUSIVELY, SAVING PERHAPS HALF OF HIS PARACHUTES FOR USE IN NIGER LATE IN MONTH.

4. FURNIMONT AND VERHOEVEN BELIEVE THAT HERCULES AIRCRAFT RELIEVING CH-07 SHOULD BE FITTED WITH SUPPLEMENTARY ROLLERS SIMILAR TO CH-07. MIGHT CARRY ONLY MINIMUM NUMBER PARACHUTES SINCE FREE DROP BY THEN SHOULD BE FULLY TESTED AND SHOULD SERVE AS PRINCIPAL METHOD DELIVER FOOD TO ISOLATED VILLAGES THAT WERE UNABLE TO STOCK FOOD SUPPLIES PRIOR TO ONSET OF RAINS.EASUM

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